

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph in the original specification that begins on page 5, line 6, with the following paragraph showing changes:

The continuously tunable delay line can be any one of a variety of continuously tunable optical delay devices that provide a continuum of delay lengths, such as all pass filters and tunable chirped gratings. Fig. 3 illustrates an advantageous continuously tunable multi-stage all pass filter (APF) 30. The APF 30 is preferably a ring cascade structure wherein each ring resonator 31 is independently coupled to an optical waveguide path 32, and the optical path length of each resonator -- and hence the delay -- can be tuned by respective phase shifters 33. The phase shifting can be electro optic, thermo optic or by current injection. The structure and operation of such tunable APF delay devices is set forth in detail in United States Patent No. 6,289,151 issued to Kazarinov *et al.* on September 11, 2001 and entitled "All Pass Optical Filters". U.S. Patent No. 6,289,151 is incorporated herein by reference.